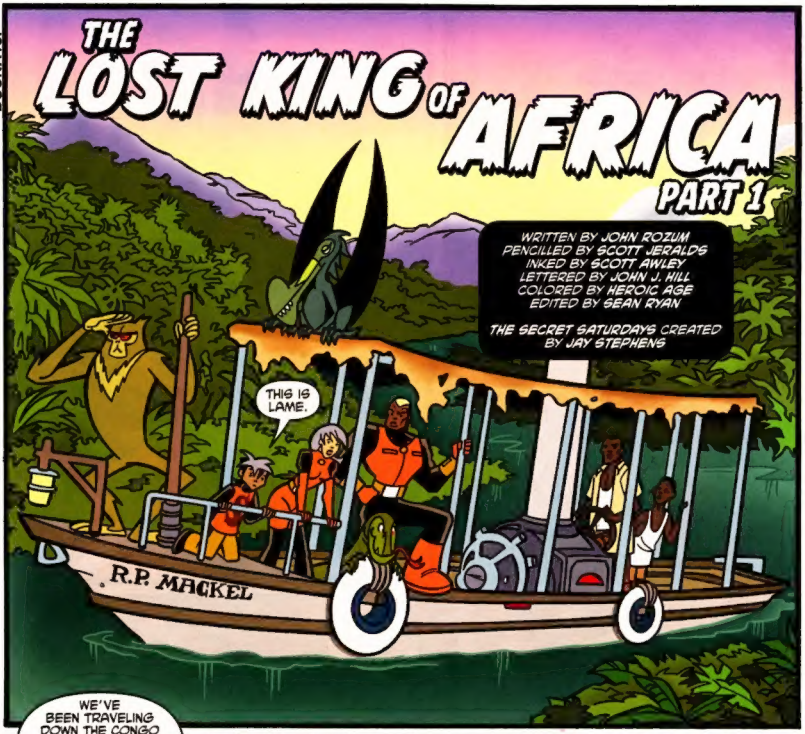
DC
#44
FEB '10
$2.50 us
CN
CARTOON NETWORK
ACTION PACK!
THE SECRET SATURDAYS
ALSO IN THIS ISSUE:
CODENAME: KIDS NEXT DOOR
SAMURAI JACK
DIRECT SALES
dckids.com

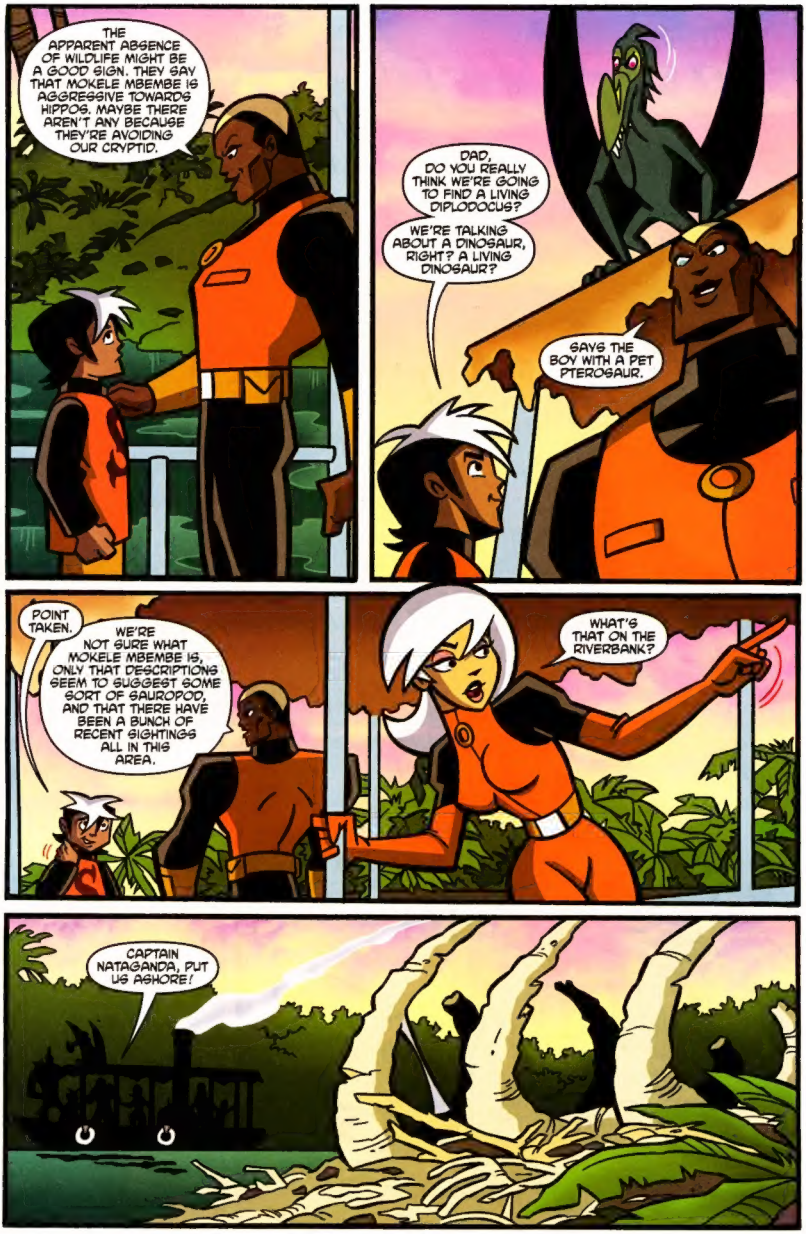
THE LOST KING OF AFRICA PART 1

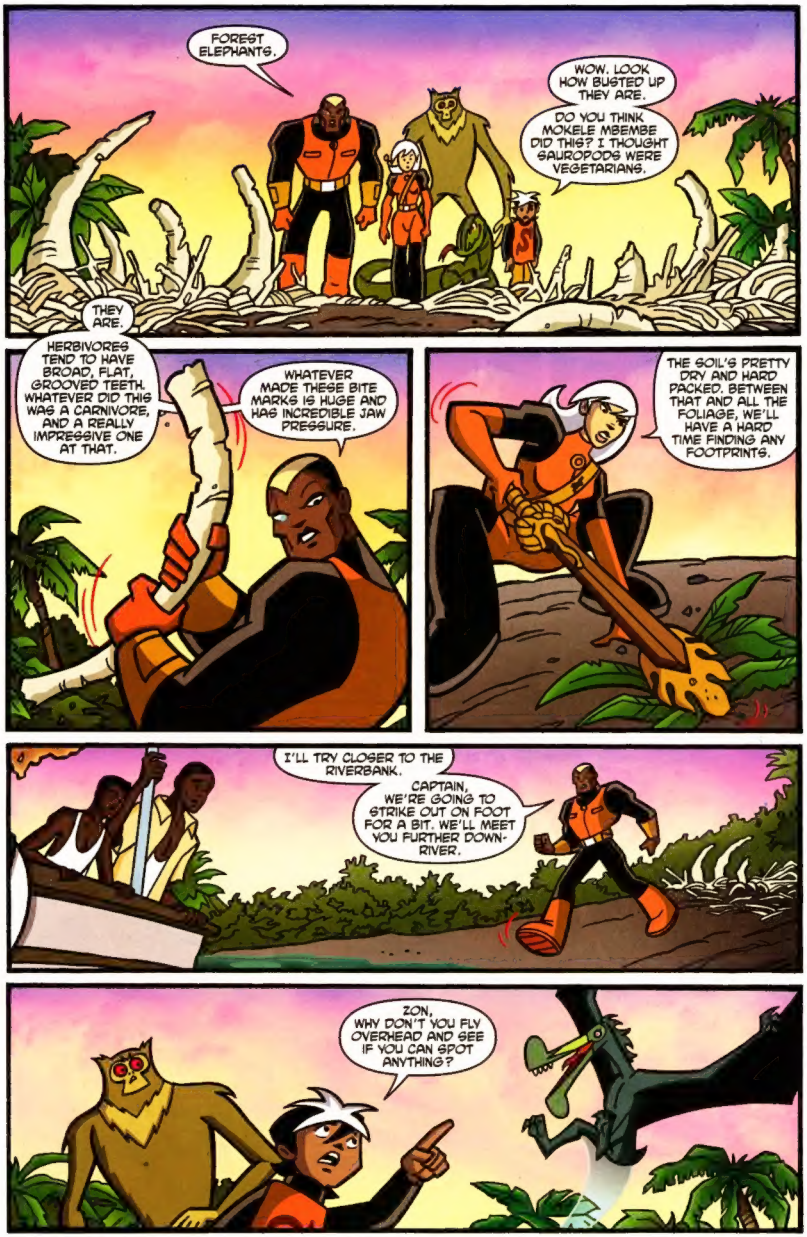
WRITTEN BY JOHN ROZUM
PENCILLED BY SCOTT JERALDS
INKED BY SCOTT AWLEY
LETTERED BY JOHN J. HILL
COLORED BY HEROIC AGE
EDITED BY SEAN RYAN

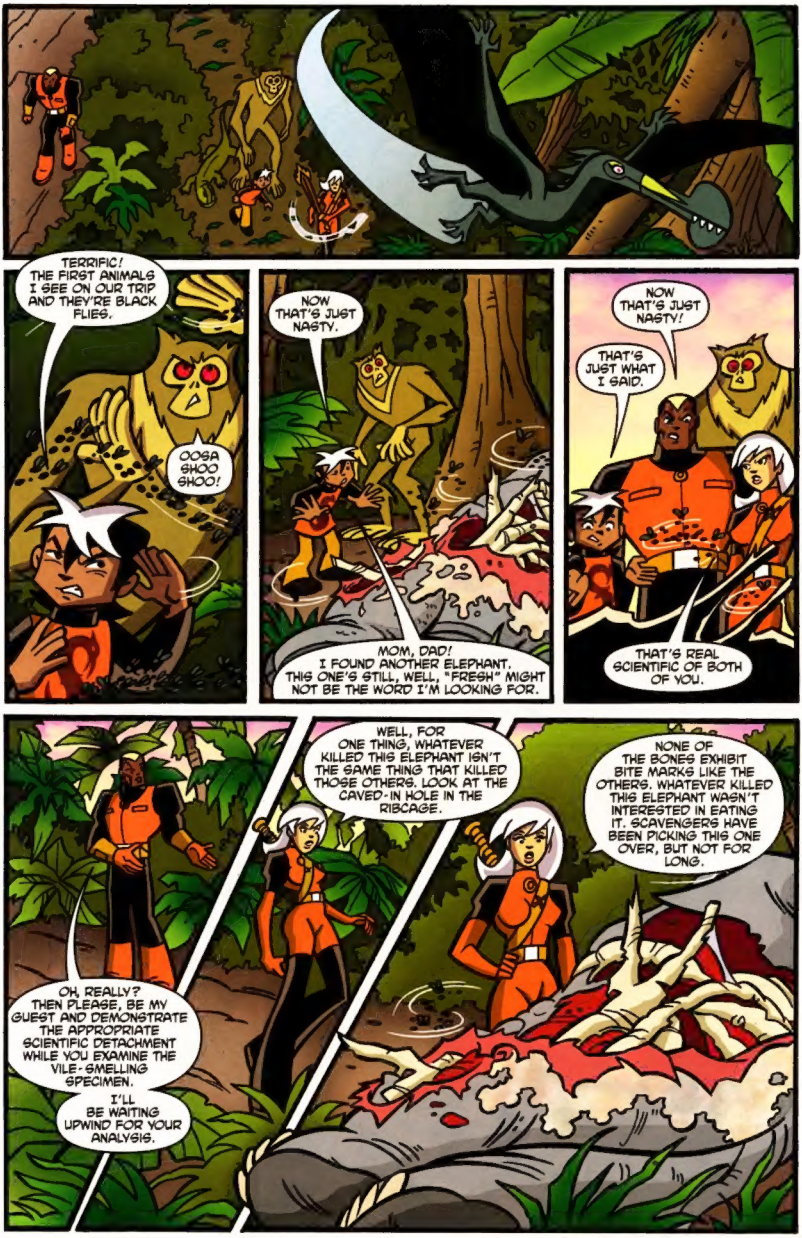
THE SECRET SATURDAYS CREATED BY JAY STEPHENS



WE'VE BEEN TRAVELING DOWN THE CONGO RIVER FOR HOURS AND I HAVEN'T SEEN A SINGLE CROCODILE, HIPPO, OR EVEN A BIRD.
SHROUSA EVESAY.


THE APPARENT ABSENCE OF WILDLIFE MIGHT BE A GOOD SIGN. THEY SAY THAT MOKELE MBEMBE IS AGGRESSIVE TOWARDS HIPPOS. MAYBE THERE AREN'T ANY BECAUSE THEY'RE AVOIDING OUR CRYPTID.
DAD, DO YOU REALLY THINK WE'RE GOING TO FIND A LIVING DIPLODOCUS?
WE'RE TALKING ABOUT A DINOSAUR, RIGHT? A LIVING DINOSAUR?
SAYS THE BOY WITH A PET PTEROSAUR.
POINT TAKEN.
WE'RE NOT SURE WHAT MOKELE MBEMBE IS, ONLY THAT DESCRIPTIONS SEEM TO SUGGEST SOME SORT OF SAUROPOD, AND THAT THERE HAVE BEEN A BUNCH OF RECENT SIGHTINGS ALL IN THIS AREA.
WHAT'S THAT ON THE RIVERBANK?
CAPTAIN NATAGANDA, PUT US ASHORE!


FOREST ELEPHANTS.
WOW. LOOK HOW BUSTED UP THEY ARE.
DO YOU THINK MOKELE MBEMBE DID THIS? I THOUGHT SAUROPODS WERE VEGETARIANS.
THEY ARE.
HERBIVORES TEND TO HAVE BROAD, FLAT, GROOVED TEETH. WHATEVER DID THIS WAS A CARNIVORE, AND A REALLY IMPRESSIVE ONE AT THAT.
WHATEVER MADE THESE BITE MARKS IS HUGE AND HAS INCREDIBLE JAW PRESSURE.
THE SOIL'S PRETTY DRY AND HARD PACKED. BETWEEN THAT AND ALL THE FOLIAGE, WE'LL HAVE A HARD TIME FINDING ANY FOOTPRINTS.
I'LL TRY CLOSER TO THE RIVERBANK.
CAPTAIN, WE'RE GOING TO STRIKE OUT ON FOOT FOR A BIT. WE'LL MEET YOU FURTHER DOWN-RIVER.
ZON, WHY DON'T YOU FLY OVERHEAD AND SEE IF YOU CAN SPOT ANYTHING?


TERRIFIC! THE FIRST ANIMALS I SEE ON OUR TRIP AND THEY'RE BLACK FLIES.
OOGA SHOO SHOO!
NOW THAT'S JUST NASTY.
MOM, DAD! I FOUND ANOTHER ELEPHANT. THIS ONE'S STILL, WELL, "FRESH" MIGHT NOT BE THE WORD I'M LOOKING FOR.
NOW THAT'S JUST NASTY!
THAT'S JUST WHAT I SAID.
THAT'S REAL SCIENTIFIC OF BOTH OF YOU.
OH, REALLY? THEN PLEASE, BE MY GUEST AND DEMONSTRATE THE APPROPRIATE SCIENTIFIC DETACHMENT WHILE YOU EXAMINE THE VILE-SMELLING SPECIMEN.
I'LL BE WAITING UPWIND FOR YOUR ANALYSIS.
WELL, FOR ONE THING, WHATEVER KILLED THIS ELEPHANT ISN'T THE SAME THING THAT KILLED THOSE OTHERS. LOOK AT THE CAVED-IN HOLE IN THE RIBCAGE.
NONE OF THE BONES EXHIBIT BITE MARKS LIKE THE OTHERS. WHATEVER KILLED THIS ELEPHANT WASN'T INTERESTED IN EATING IT. SCAVENGERS HAVE BEEN PICKING THIS ONE OVER, BUT NOT FOR LONG.

HMMM.
DID A RHINO DO THAT, DAD?
NO. FOR ONE THING, THERE AREN'T ANY RHINOS IN THIS PART OF AFRICA. FOR ANOTHER THING, A RHINO THAT COULD DO THIS WOULD BE ENORMOUS.
GREEOWWRRAW
I'LL TELL YOU THIS, TOO. I DON'T THINK IT WAS MOKELE MBEMBE EITHER.
GOOD WORK, KOMODO.
WHOA! THOSE LOOK LIKE THEY BELONG TO A QUADRUPED.
WHATEVER MADE THESE TRACKS IS NEARBY.
WE'VE GOT TO GET OUT OF HERE. NOW.
RUSTLE RUSTLE

WHEET
WHEET
PHEW!
REEEEUNK
RUN!

REEUNK
THUMPA-
THUMPA-
THUMPA
SNIFF
SNIFF
SNORT
I THOUGHT WE WERE GONERS.
I WONDER WHAT MADE IT DECIDE TO LEAVE.

GREEEOOOOAAARRRR
TO BE CONTINUED...

CODENAME: KIDS NEXT DOOR in

OPERATION: R.E.B.O.U.N.D.

(ROMANTICAL EX BARE OFTEN UPENDS RIDEL'S DAY)

KIDS NEXT DOOR... BATTLE STATIONS!

YEAH, YEAH... WE'RE BATTLE STATIONING AS MUCH AS WE CAN!

ROMANTIC WRITER- MR. WARBURTON
PENCILLING PARTNER- MAURICE FONTENOT
IN LOVE INKER - THE IGUANA
LOVING LETTERER - JOHN J. HILL
COLORING COMPANION - HEROIC AGE
STEADY BOYFRIEND - SEAN RYAN

CODENAME: KIDS NEXT DOOR
CREATED BY MR. WARBURTON

BUT THERE'S TOO MANY OF THEM!

NO KIDDING! I HATE WHEN THE DELIGHTFUL CHILDREN ATTACK US WITH AN ARMY OF--

BA-THOOOOOM

SHAK-SHAKA-

SHAK

SHRAKOW

GOBBZZZLE-GOBBZZZLE

ROBOTURKEYS! GAAAAH!

BZAAAAP

DUCK, NUMBUH TWO!

HEY! WATCH THE GOGGLES!

DING-DOOOONG

IS THAT THE DOORBELL?

MAYBE IT'S REINFORCEMENTS!

GO CHECK IT OUT, NUMBUH TWO! WE'LL COVER YOU!

ISN'T THE CAVALRY SUPPOSED TO JUST STORM IN AND SAVE THE DAY INSTEAD OF RINGING THE DOORBELL?

ON IT!

DING DONG DING DONG
ALL RIGHT ALL RIGHT! I'M COMING!
GOBBZZZLE-GOBBZZZLE-
BA-THA-AAAAAM
SQUARK!
DING DONG DING DONG DING DONG
DOOT
OKAY! I'M HERE! EASE UP ON THE BELL--
LIZZIE?!
WELL, IT'S ABOUT TIME! ARE YOU TRYING TO MAKE ME LATE FOR MY DATE?
GOBBZZZLE-SQUARK!
UM... DATE?! IF I REMEMBER CORRECTLY, YOU DUMPED NUMBUH ONE A COUPLE WEEKS AGO.
WHO SAID I'VE GOT A DATE WITH NIGEL?!
UM... THIS IS NOT A GOOD TIME, LIZZIE!
MAN, NUMBUH FIVE, I THOUGHT WE WERE RID OF HER.
WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT? IT'S A GREAT TIME FOR ME TO DATE. THERE ARE OTHER FINCHES IN THE SEA BESIDES YOU!
YOU MEAN FISH... OTHER FISH IN THE SEA.
OW! GET OFFA ME, YOU THANKSGIVING DINNER FOR ANDROIDS!
THERE YOU ARE!

AND DON'T YOU LOOK HANDSOME, JONAS?
ARE YOU OUT OF YOUR MIND, LIZZIE?
FOR ONE, WE ARE UNDER ATTACK! AND TWO, YOU'RE GOING ON A DATE WITH A HAMSTER?!
OH, NIGEL. I THOUGHT YOU WERE ABOVE JEALOUS NAME-CALLING.
JEALOUS?! I'M NOT JEALOUS OF--
WELL, YOU SHOULD BE. HE'S PERFECT BOYFRIEND MATERIAL-- UNLIKE YOU.
SEE? JONAS HAS GOT GREAT HAIR.
THAT'S NOT HAIR, IT'S FUR!
HE'S GOT A GREAT JOB.
HE RUNS ON A WHEEL WITH A MILLION OTHER HAMSTERS TO PROVIDE POWER TO THIS TREE-HOUSE!
AND HE'S NOT ALWAYS RUNNING OFF ON RIDICULOUS MISSIONS AND PRETENDING HE'S SOME KIND OF ACTION HERO LIKE YOU!
BECAUSE HE'S A HAMS--
BZZZ

KA-SHOOF
RAKA-RAKA
AHHAAAAAM
YOU...YOU SAVED ME! YOU'RE...
YOU'RE JUST LIKE HIM!
EEP!
MR. ACTION HERO SHOOT 'EM UP BANG BANG I'M SO COOL LOOK AT ME!
NEXT THING YOU'LL BE GOING ON MISSIONS AND NEVER HAVING TIME FOR ME AND FIGHTING ADULT TYRANNY AND HANGING OUT WITH LOSERS LIKE HOAGIE GILLIGAN AND WELL, YOU CAN JUST FORGET DATING ME, EVEN THOUGH YOU DO HAVE GREAT HAIR--I'M OUT OF HERE-- AND DON'T EVER CALL ME AGAIN!
IT'S WAY MORE FUN THAN GOING OUT WITH LIZZIE!
WHEEEEEE!
BEEN THERE.
BUT SEEING AS YOUR DATE'S BEEN ABRUPTLY CANCELLED-- HOW'D YA LIKE TO HELP US TAKE DOWN THE REST OF THESE ROBOTURKEYS?
END TRANSMISSION.

AAARRGGHHHH!!
AAARRGGHHHH!!
AAARRGGHHHH!!
AAARRGGHHHH!!
DCCNA189
PARTS OF A WHOLE
WRITTEN BY JASON HALL
ART BY PHILIP MOY
LETTERED BY JOHN J. HILL
COLORED BY HEROIC AGE
EDITED BY SEAN RYAN
SAMURAI JACK CREATED BY GENNDY TARTAKOVSKY

SIX HOURS EARLIER...
SOMEBODY HELP...!
THREE AGAINST ONE? NOT VERY HONORABLE.
AARGHH!!
CLANK
BONK
ARE YOU OKAY?
I AM NOW, THANKS TO YOU. BUT I MUST RETURN TO MY VILLAGE. WE ARE MAKING PREPARATIONS AS THE WISE MAN INSTRUCTED.
WISE MAN...?
I WILL ACCOMPANY YOU TO ENSURE NO MORE HARM COMES TO YOU.
AGGH...
BLLLTTTT

WHO WERE THOSE PEOPLE?
THEY ARE ZAPPOS. WE ARE PLUNKERS. OUR TWO TRIBES HAVE BEEN AT THE BRINK OF WAR FOR SOME TIME NOW.
BOTH OUR TRIBES ARE STARVING... DYING! THIS LAND IS NOTHING BUT IMPENETRABLE ROCK THAT CANNOT BE FARMED.
BUT WE WILL NOT LET THEM BE THE END OF US.
WHY DO YOU HOLD THEM PRISONER IN SUCH CONDITIONS?
BECAUSE THEY WOULD TREAT US NO BETTER.
WE WERE VISITED BY A WISE MAN WHO EXPLAINED HOW THE ZAPPOS ARE DEPLETING THE FEW RESOURCES LEFT ON THIS LAND.
HE TOLD US THAT WIPING OUT THE ZAPPOS IS OUR ONLY CHANCE OF SURVIVAL.
ALL-FATHER-- THIS MAN RESCUED ME FROM A BAND OF ZAPPOS!
SO NOW THEY ARE GANGING UP ON OUR YOUNG? THIS IS THE LAST STRAW!
WE WILL ATTACK THE ZAPPOS AT SUNDOWN!

WAR!
WAR!
WAR!
SOMETHING IS NOT RIGHT HERE...
PERHAPS THE ANSWER IS IN THE ZAPPOS VILLAGE.
THERE IS LITTLE GAME FOR YOU TO HUNT ON THIS BARREN LAND. THE VILE PLUNKERS ARE BLEEDING DRY THE FEW RESOURCES LEFT.
IF THEY REMAIN, THE ZAPPOS WILL NOT SURVIVE!
THE ONLY SOLUTION IS... WAR!

WAR!
WAR!
WAR!
YOU ARE NOT VERY WISE FOR A "WISE MAN".
WHY HAVE YOU INCITED THESE TWO TRIBES TO WAR?
BECAUSE YOU'VE BECOME A PREDICTABLE BORE, JACK!
UNGH!
YAWN...
AND I'VE GOT TO KEEP MYSELF ENTERTAINED SOMEHOW!
I MUST PUT STOP TO THIS...BUT HOW?

NOW...
STOP!!!
IF WE PUT OUR HEADS TOGETHER, I'M SURE WE CAN THINK OF A BETTER SOLUTION THAN ALL-OUT WAR.

RRAAAGHH!
GAAARGHH!
BZZZZZZT--
WHACK
WWUUURRRR
WWUUURRRR
WWUUURRRR

WWUURRRR
SPLOOOSH
HERE IS YOUR FUTURE... WORKING TOGETHER, USING YOUR WEAPONS OF WAR IN CONJUNCTION AS TOOLS FOR PROSPERITY.
SIX MONTHS LATER...
END

SEND YOUR LETTERS TODAY:

JOHNNY DC SAYS: LET THE MAIL BEGIN!

Make your list and check it 10 TIMES! The Ben 10: Alien Swarm DVD is in stores right now and flying off the shelves! The action hits high gear when Ben, Kevin and Gwen discover a deadly alien threat to the planet. And there's only one hero brave enough to take on this swarming menace! Catch all the action when the BEN 10: ALIEN SWARM DVD swarms into a store near you!

Dear Johnny DC,

I love THE SECRET SATURDAYS and BEN 10: ALIEN FORCE. The picture I sent, I had a tiny bit of help from my brother. I was kind of nervous at first, but it's fun. I can't wait for the next issue.

Laura Tripp, age 10
York, South Carolina

There's nothing wrong with doing art with other people. Most of our artists work in teams.
— Johnny DC

DRAWING BY LAURA TRIPP

Dear Johnny DC,

In CARTOON NETWORK ACTION PACK, Ben has turned into more than ten aliens. Will he do the same in BEN 10: ALIEN FORCE?

Also, in issue #25, why does Ben turn out as Wildmutt when he goes back in time?

Will Schwartz
Chapel Hill, North Carolina

15-year-old Ben is restricted, for now, to his latest set of ten aliens (including Goop and Jetray, who you drew). To answer your second question, when the Tesla coil sent Ben back in time, its electricity messed with his Omnitrix.
— Johnny DC

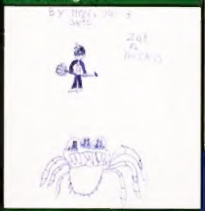
DRAWING BY WILL SCHWARTZ

Dear Johnny DC,

BEN 10 used to be my favorite show, but now it's THE SECRET SATURDAYS! My fave is Zak, but I also like Fiskerton. I think it would be cool to have a 7-foot-tall gorilla-cat as a big brother! I drew a picture to go along with this – it's called Zak vs. the cacus!

Henry Hall III, age 10
Germantown, Tennessee

The Saturdays didn't need to fight the cacus in issue #39. It's cool how you drew the same characters to tell your own story!
— Johnny DC



DRAWING BY HENRY HALL III

NEXT ISSUE: Secret Saturdays fans will be happy to learn that, next month, the team is on the run from a Tyrannosaurus rex (unless they get eaten, of course)! Plus, Samurai Jack attempts to destroy a statue dedicated to his hated enemy, Aku! And finally, Numbuh Four, of the Kids Next Door, has to contend with... A Kissyface Rodeo?! Bleech!

Meanwhile, do you miss the Powerpuff Girls? So do I, and so do Sophia from New Jersey and Angeline from Michigan!

DRAWING BY SOPHIA KAKOS, AGE 6

DRAWING BY ANGELINE AMELOOT, AGE 5

Write to Johnny DC!
JOHNNY DC– CARTOON NETWORK ACTION PACK
c/o DC COMICS
1700 BROADWAY
NEW YORK, NY 10019

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JOHNNY DC's

DC IN DEMAND!

THESE COMIC BOOKS ARE BRAVE AND BOLD AND SUPER FRIENDLY!!

SUPER FRIENDS #22
The fiendish Mr. Memory may take holiday thoughts away from everyone, even the Super Friends!

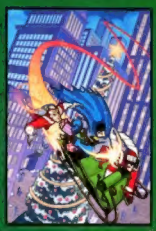
TINY TITANS #23
Wayne Manor has been overrun by penguins and bunnies, and poor Robin is caught in the middle!

SCOOBY-DOO #151
Mystery, Inc. stumbles into a fantastic case involving a strange creature bent on stealing a painting!

BILLY BATSON AND THE MAGIC OF SHAZAM #11
Billy was told never to say the magic word when at the Rock of Eternity; and now we find out why! Yipes!

CARTOON NETWORK ACTION PACK #44
The Secret Saturdays discover a Lost King of Africa! Plus, Codename: Kids Next Door and Samurai Jack!

LOONEY TUNES #181
Can Duck Dodgers (and his trusty Cadet) teach the Bees of the Bumble Bee Planet how to get bee-zy?



BATMAN: THE BRAVE AND THE BOLD #12
Batman must team up with Adam Strange in order to save Earth, Rann, the Universe…and Christmas!!

SUPERGIRL: COSMIC ADVENTURES IN THE EIGHTH GRADE
An all-ages extravaganza, collecting the miniseries featuring the young Supergirl and her super-powered pets!

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